Rev py

K-242

Piney Grove or Tilghman Farm Quaker Neck c. 1773

Situated on the Chester River between the tracts of East Huntington and Radcliffe Cross, Tilghman's Farm was patented to Richard Tilghman January 10, 1670 and contained 900 acres. Richard Tilghman died soon thereafter and left the farm to his son, Richard, Jr., who began selling off parcels beginning in 1710.2 By 1738 William Thomas owned six hundred twenty seven acres, half of which he willed to his daughter Mary Thomas. Mary's son, Samuel Dickens of Talbot County, deeded 327 acres to Robert George of Kent County, in January of 1773.4 Soon thereafter, Robert and his wife Ann had the original house constructed. It consisted of the southeast half of the existing dwelling. Their first child, Robert, was born in 1770 and last, Sarah, in 1785. They were members of Chester Meeting of the Society of Friends.

In its original form, the house was 28' x 34', two stories tall with an 'A' roof and without dormers. Two chimneys were contained within the gables, the southeast chimney being broader than the other. Since there is a large fireplace in the basement, there is some question about when a kitchen wing was constructed above ground. And since there is an original brick opening on the northwest gable of the original house, it seems likely that the upstairs kitchen was at least planned from the beginning. Perhaps the laundry was in the basement! In the northwest basement, traces of an 18th century wing are visible in the front wall.

In 1783 Robert George was assessed for 410 acres of Tilghman's Farm and 140 acres of Stradford Manor. A "Brick dwelling and other

necessary houses" are listed along with seven "Whites" living on the farm. The property was valued at @800.

As built, the George residence was an imposing, though vernacular form of house. The plan consisted of four rooms on the first floor, one being the stair hall on the river side of the house. The room behind the stair was of nearly equal dimensions and had a fireplace. The two other rooms were larger, the river side room having paneled jambs with two-part trim and a fireplace nearly centered. The back room had plain window jambs with backband molding and a corner fireplace. In plan the house is similar to two others in Kent, namely Springfield Farm (1770) and Hepbron's Choice, (approximately of the same date).

The second floor plan remains largely intact. Doors trim and windows remain along with some hardware. At the head of the stair is a small hall with four doors leading to the four bedrooms and an enclosure for the stair to the attic.

Of interest in the attic is the exposed roof structure which has the tie beams mortised and tenoned into the rafters and the rafters half-lapped and pegged, the reverse from usual practice. On the south side, the attic has 5" wide oak flooring whereas the other half has wide yellow pine. Three windows originally lit the attic, two in the southeast and one in the northwest gable.

By 1799, the year of Robert George's death, and two years after Ann's death, his bondsmen were required to post a bond for @10,000, a huge sum in those days. He left the majority of his land called Tilghman Farm to his

son "William Edmonson George . . . (only 15 years old at the time) when he arrives at 21" and stipulated that his daughter and executrix, Elizabeth, shall be his guardian.⁵

Elizabeth and her husband, Philip Evan Thomas, purchased the farm from William E. George in 1806,6 but three years later, they sold the farm to Joseph Simmonds and Sarah, her youngest sister⁷ who lived on the adjoining Stradford Manor farm at the time of her father's death. Joseph and Sarah both died in 1824 and Joseph bequeathed "part of my Mansion Farm" to his son Robert George Simmonds, he paying to his six younger siblings \$2,000.8 Five years later Robert sold the farm to his sister Sarah and her husband Bartus Trew,9 the son of William and Mary Trew of Providence Plantation. It is not probable that the Trews lived at Tilghman's Farm, as Providence is referred to as the "home farm" in a deed recorded in 1840. As a result of Bartus' death his real estate had to be sold.

Edward Comegys purchased Tilghman's Farm or the "Simmonds Farm" in 1837¹⁰ and held it until 1848.¹¹ Edward owned huge tracts of land in Kent County at this period and probably lived at his ancestors' plantation known as Utrick or Comegys Bight. He sold the property to James Mansfield, a contractor, who lived on High St., Chestertown in 1841.

Mansfield was taxed on 310 acres of Tilghman's Farm in 1852, which lists "Brick House and other buildings in good repair formerly to Edward Comegys." It is likely that Mansfield lived here since the assessment listed livestock, furniture, plate and other property.

Mansfield sold 312 acres to Col. Edward Wilkins in 1860.12 Col. Wilkins had married Mary A. Merritt and upon the death of her father, Joseph T., had inherited part of Godlington Manor at the end of Wilkins Lane. Apparently Col. & Mrs. Wilkins lived on part of Godlington Manor farm, then called "Riverside" and in 1866 sold Tilghman's Farm to their daughter and son-in-law, Julianna and Robert Emory for \$400 rent per annum. 13 In that deed, there is mention of a county road being laid out which "leads to Col. Wilkins residence."

Like his father-in-law and brother-in-law, Robert Emory was well known for his orchards. It is said in <u>Portrait & Biographical Record 1898</u> that he "Grew more pears than anyone east of California, having about 20,000 trees . . ." In the 1877 Atlas he is listed as "extensive fruit grower and dealer."

It was during the ownership of the Emorys that the house was enlarged to its present form. A nearly equal size addition was constructed over the former kitchen and houses a kitchen and pantry and large dining room on the first floor. At the same time or soon thereafter, connection between the second floor was made, making one bedroom smaller by three feet. In order to conceal the fact that part of the old kitchen wall was incorporated into the new section, the entire six-bay structure was stuccoed and scored to resemble ashlar masonry. Two dormers in the new section were balanced by two in the old section. On the riverside a tall porch with square champhered columns and bold balustrade was constructed to take advantage of the view up river to Chestertown, as well as to keep an eye on the wharf at the foot of the property. The interior of the old section was altered very little. Chair rail was removed from the walls but window trim

remained. The three fireplaces received new mantels at this time, that in the riverside parlor received a marble slate mantel and coal stove so typical of the latter half of the 19th century. One curious feature exists in that the original walnut balustrade remains, but the stairs themselves appear to have been replaced. Another handrail dating from the 1860's with bold newel post, and fitting the exact size of the stair was made but possibly never installed.

Since 1860, the house has remained in the same family and has become a document of one family's ties with the land. Only minor changes have occurred over the years since the major 1860's remodeling. Bathrooms were updated in the 1950's. A breakfast room was added onto part of the heightened side porch and new wallpaper and paint were applied. About the same time a large frame building used in packing the fruit before being sent down the lane to the wharf, was torn down and replaced with a three-car garage. It was stuccoed to match the house. An early brick smoke house remains between the garage and house and on the opposite side of the yard is a mid-19th century ice house. Landscaping is largely the product of the 1950 remodeling.

- 1. Patents, Lib. 14, fol. 139.
- 2. Land Records, Lib. JS 6, fol. 260, 264.
- 3. Wills, Lib. 2, fol. 103.
- 4. Land Records, Lib. DD 4, fol. 178.
- 5. Wills, Lib. 8, fol. 43.
- 6. Land Records, TW 3, fol. 464.
- 7. Land Records, BC 6, fol. 53.
- 8. Wills, Lib. 10, fol. 366.
- 9. Land Records, JNG 1, fol. 483.

- 10. Land Records, JNG 6, fol. 158.
- 11. Land Records, JNG 11, fol. 712.
- 12. Land Records, JKH 2, fol. 276.
- 13. Land Records, JKH 5, fol. 676.

Piney Grove, Tilghman Farm, Simmonds Farm 19th Century Chestertown Private

Piney Grove is a tall, two room deep gable roof house of brick which has been stuccoed and lined to resemble ashlar masonary. The building overlooks the Chester River and on the water facade is a handsome tall porch with bracketted cornice and urn shaped balusters. Also on the property is an interesting 19th century ice house.

In the late 19th century and after, Piney Grove Farm was one stop for the steamers which carried passengers and farm produce to Baltimore.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

NAME					
HISTORIC Tำใ <i>g</i> hman Fa	rm, Simmonds Farm				
AND/OR COMMON					
Piney Grove					
LOCATION					
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	, Wilkins Lane (1996)			CONGRESSIONAL DISTRIC	CT .
Chestertown	\	CINITY OF	First	COUNTY	
STATE			Kent	COUNTY	
Maryland					
CLASSIFICA	ATION				
•		STATUS		PRESENT USE	
CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	 X OCCUPIED		AGRICULTURE	MUSEUM
DISTRICT	PUBLIC	UNOCCUPIED		COMMERCIAL	PARK
XBUILDING(S)	<u>X</u> PRIVATE	WORK IN PROG	RESS	EDUCATIONAL	X PRIVATE RESIDEN
STRUCTURE	_BOTH PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBL		ENTERTAINMENT	RELIGIOUS
SITE	IN PROCESS	YES: RESTRICTE		GOVERNMENT	SCIENTIFIC
OBJECT	BEING CONSIDERED	YES: UNRESTRI	CTED	INDUSTRIAL	TRANSPORTATIO
OWNER OF	PROPERTY	_ X NO		MILITARY	OTHER
NAME	PROPERTY			MILITARY	
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NAME Robert A	PROPERTY			elephone #:(30)	
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K-242

CONDITION

CHECK ONE

CHECK ONE

*EXCELLENT

__FAIR

__DETERIORATED

__UNEXPOSED

__UNALTERED

X_ORIGINAL SITE

__MOVED DATE_____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Piney Grove is a tall, two-room deep gable roof house of brick which has been stuccoed and lined to resemble ashlar masonry. It was originally constructed as a two story, side hall plan house, three bays wide. Later, probably in the second quarter of the 19th century, the building was enlarged three bays to the north, making it a central plan building. Gable dormers, four in each roof slope added another half story. A one room, one story addition on the northwest gable, plus front and rear porches complete the large house.

Piney Grove House is evenly fenestrated with 8/8 sash windows in the long facades and 6/6 sash windows in dormers. Early beaded frames with quarter round backband moldings remain on the older windows. Green louvered shutters held with wrought shutter dogs are used at all windows.

The roof is covered with shingles and finished against verge boards. There is an enormous square enclosed chimney with four flues in the southeast gable, and other chimneys in the original gable and the addition. Their caps are stepped out and in.

The main entrance is sheltered by a three bay entrance porch with square "Doric" columns. The door itself has a three-pane transom light and a 19th century door with broad, flat moldings around its panels.

Piney Grove House faces the Chester River with a beautiful view of Chestertown; during the 19th century, probably when the house was enlarged, an ancestor of the present took full advantage of the house's site by building a magnificent, tall porch across the entire river front. The nearly flat roof of the porch is carried by six enormous, square columns with chamfered corners and lamb's tongue chamfer stop. Curved bracketts with shaped ends support the cornice which is enriched with modillion blocks. The balustrade is made of turned urn-shaped balusters and large molded hand rail. The lawn is reached by a central flight of steps which end in enormous urn-like newels. Double doors leading from the interior hall to the porch have panels that are edged with deep bolection moldings; there is a transom light above. Decorative cast iron ceiling vents are used.

Originally the old house had a basement kitchen with wide fireplace situated beneath the roof ridge near the southeast gable. The mantle tree and cooking pots are preserved in place. Another fireplace is located in the corner of the front southeast parlor. The supporting arch in the basement was once a part of a basement cooling well. The basement is quite high and the windows were quite tall; entry was from the river side.

The interior stair remains from the earliest period of the house as does much of the interior window and door trim. The spandrel has a single triangular raised and beveled panel. Balusters are plain and sit 2/step on the open string. There is a four-panel door to a closet beneath the landing. Newel and intermediates are turned and have simple round caps. Trim on stair hall doorways have a bead and quarter round backband. The hall itself is divided into two parts by a plain three-centered arch opening. There is a fireplace near the west (approach) facade door.

Wooden detailing reflects the several building periods. An upstairs mantle with rectangular opening, quarter round surround and narrow cyma recta molded shelf probably dates from the earliest period. Trim on this floor has a quarter round molding and bead and doors have six-panels. Baseboards are beaded and floors are of 6" pine. Mantles on the first floor are of the same period and later. In the dining room a simple mid-19th century mantle with plain frieze and pillasters is flanked by two

8 SIGNIFICANCE

K-242

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW						
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	<u>X</u> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION			
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE			
_1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	UTERATURE	SCULPTURE			
1600-1699	X ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN			
<u>X</u> 1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER			
X1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION-SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	_TRANSPORTATION			
_1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	_INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	OTHER (SPECIFY)			
		INVENTION					
SPECIFIC DAT	TES	BUILDER/ARCHITECT					

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Piney Grove is an old Kent County House which was at one time the center one of the area's finest fruit growing farms. The land was (900 acres) originally patented to Richard Tilghman in January 10, 1670 and known as "Tilghmans Farm". Owned since 1860 by the family which owns it today, the house reflects the changes time and a changing economy have brought. The early dwelling incorporated in the present structure is not a prominent peterior feature. By form and detailing the three center bays seem to have been built in the early 19th century by Simmonds or his sons, Robert and Joseph (1809–1829) or by Bartus Trew.

He purchased the 312 acres for \$3,000 in 1829 and sold the property in 1839 for \$5,481. In 1860 Edward and Francis Wilkins paid \$12,000 for the farm. In a few years Robert and Juliana Emory purchased the property which is still owned by a descendant. Evidently it was the Emory family who made "extensive modern improvements" on the house mentioned in a newspaper article about Capt. Robert S. Emory, a horticulturist. In the late 19th and well into the 20th century Piney Grove Farm (so called since 1906) was a stop for the commercial steamers from Baltimore.

Piney Grove is important in Kent County history. The river front porch is an outstanding example of mid-19th century architectural design.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

K-242

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET	I IF NECESSARY	
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY		
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION		
LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES TO		
LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FO	OR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES	
STATE	COUNTY	
STATE	COUNTY	_
II FORM PREPARED BY		
NAME / TITLE		
ORGANIZATION	DATE	
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE	
CITY OR TOWN	STATE	

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust

The Shaw House, 21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 267-1438

#7 DESCRIPTION continued

round arch cupboards that have shallow paneled doors. In the parlor is an earlier mantle; it has a rectangular opening with delicate composite moldings and a broken, molded shelf visually supported by three-paneled frieze-blocks.

Parallel rows of boxwood and pine trees establish axes which cross at the house. Gardens and outbuildings carefully preserved and maintained are important to the character of Piney Grove. Most remarkable is the A-roof ice house with overhanging shingle roof and German shiplap sides. A gable-roofed smoke house also remains. Its batten door is hung with penny-end strap hinges.

Form 10-445 (5/62) 1. STATE Mongland

COUNTY Kent

TOWN Christian VICINITY Quality Whech

STREET NOVIKIUS Lane - & with 5 & Gundar Whech Rd.

ORIGINAL OWNER
ORIGINAL USE dwelling Atk, is so a
PRESENT OWNER Robert Atk, is so a
PRESENT USE dwelling
WALL CONSTRUCTION Brich wy streets
NO. OF STORIES 22

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
INVENTORY \(\Lambda - 242

2. NAME Piney Grove —

DATE OR PERIOD 18ths early 19th Cent.

STYLE Federal

ARCHITECT

BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

OPEN TO PUBLIC NO

*

Princip Grove so a very large 21/2 story brich house that has been consed with steens and scored to sintate oshlor mesonry. It house is but in 2 steeps but appears as a whole at present. It is to bays long of 2 larges deep with an A roof range 4 dorners on each side. Keep a pack on the ust entrone powder of a tall 2 story screened power on the est powder while overbooks the Center Ruin and Charleston: a distance, the winder have 3/8 sich an both thous of lowered shutters. Her has a course by wood shingles of the dorner have 1/6 sich and one powered white.

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5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered NO Interior good Exterior/engaged Condition of the grado ham vurniron all house, a smith Branch home of a Pridor ice house.

6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

7. PHOTOGRAPH

8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Poges)
INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.
Wilson Bound (Marsons &

Wilson Borrett, Colonal Mansons Hand A.S Burnes, New York, 1965. pt 24.

WPA Guide - 1946 - P 369

9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER
Wichael Sourie

DATE OF RECORD Oct 12, 1968

piney Grove is a very large two-and-one-half story brick house that has been covered with stucco and scored to simulate ashlar masonry. The house is built in two stories but appears as a whole at present. It is six bays long and two bays deep with an A roof having four dormers on each side. There is a three bay porch on the west entrance facade and a tall two story screened porch on the east facade which overlooks the Chester River and Chestertown in the distance. The windows have \$/8 sashes on both floors and louvered shutters. The roof is covered with wood shingles and the dormers have 0/0 sashes and are painted white.

The center hall and two rooms south were the original house and they may date from early in the eighteenth century, but the woodwork is that of the late eighteenth century. In the basement of this section is a large brick fireplace. Those above are placed in the corners of the rooms. The house is kept in splendid condition and the grounds have numerous old trees, a brick meat house and a Victorian ice house.

Cecil R. Atkinson
Mary E. Atkinson, his wife

To

Edward W. Emory Julia Emory Isabelle Emory Robert J. Emory DEED dated Nov. 5th, 1906 Recorded in Liber J.T.D. No. 14, folio 258

Cons. \$1600.00

Called "Piney Grove" - 98 acres

Cecil R. Atkinson Mary E. Atkinson, his wfie

To

DEED dated Nov. 5th, 1906 Recorded in Liber J.T.D. 14, Folio 260

15 A. wood lot

Edward W. Emory Julia Emory Isabelle Emory Robert J. Emory

Edward Wilkins Frances D.Wilins, his wife

To

Juliana Emory wife of Robert Emory

DEED dated October 4, 1866 Recorded in Liber JKH No.5 Folio 676

100 A. and 30 P.

Also wood lot - part of Jones Farm

Juliana Emory died leaving Robert S. Emory, her husband and the following named children.

Edward W. Emory, Julia Emory, Isabella Emory, Robert J. Emory, Mary E. Emory who intermattied with Cecil R. Atkinson.

James Mansfield
Mary B. Mansfield, his wife

To

Edward Wilkins

DEED dated November 2, 1860 Recorded in Liber J.K.H. No. 2 Folio 276

Cons. \$12,000.00

312 acres

Called "Simmonds Farm", part of tract of land called "Tilghamans Farm"

Edward Comegys

To

James Mansfield

DEED dated August 5, 1848 Recorded in Liber J.N.G. No. 11, Folio 712

Cons. \$5700.00

312 A.

Known as "Simmonds Farm" and "Tilghmans Farm"

John B. Eccleston, Trustee for sale of real estate of Bartus Trew

folio 158

To

Cons. \$5481.00

Edward Comegys

312 A.

"Simmonds Farm" -- "Tilghmans Farm"

Recorded in Liber J.N.G. No.6

DEED dated May 18, 1839

Robert G. Simmonds

DEED dated March 14, 1829 Recorded in Liber J.N.G. NO.1

To

folio 483

Bartus Trew

Cons. \$3000.00

312 A. "Simmonds Farm" - Tilghmans Farm"

Philip Evan Thomas Elizabeth Thomas, his wife formerly Elizabeth George, daughter of Robert George DEFD dated Dec. 4, 1809 RECORDED in Liber B.C. 6 folio 53

То

Cons. \$6340.00

Joseph Simmonds

312 A. Part of tract called "Tilghman Farm"

Devised by Joseph Simmonds to his sons, Robert and Joseph Simmonds and which was purchased by Bartus Trew from Robert and Joseph Simmonds

.

Samuel Dickinson
of Talbot County
Elizabeth Dickinson
his wife

DEED dated January 30, 1773 Recorded in Liber DD.No.4 folio 178

To

Cons. 1150 lbs.

Robert George

327 A. All that part of tract of land called Tilghman's Farm.

Devised to Elizabeth Thomas by last will and testament of her father, Robert George.

John Woodall

DEED dated Jan. 13, 1730 Recorded in Liber 4 Folio 94

To

Cons. 200 lbs.

William Thomas

327 A. "Tilghmans Farm"

Devised by last will and testament of William Thomas to his daughter Mary Thomas, the mother of the said Samuel Dickinson

Richard Tilghman

DEED dated March 23, 1710

To

Recorded in Liber No. 2 folio 171

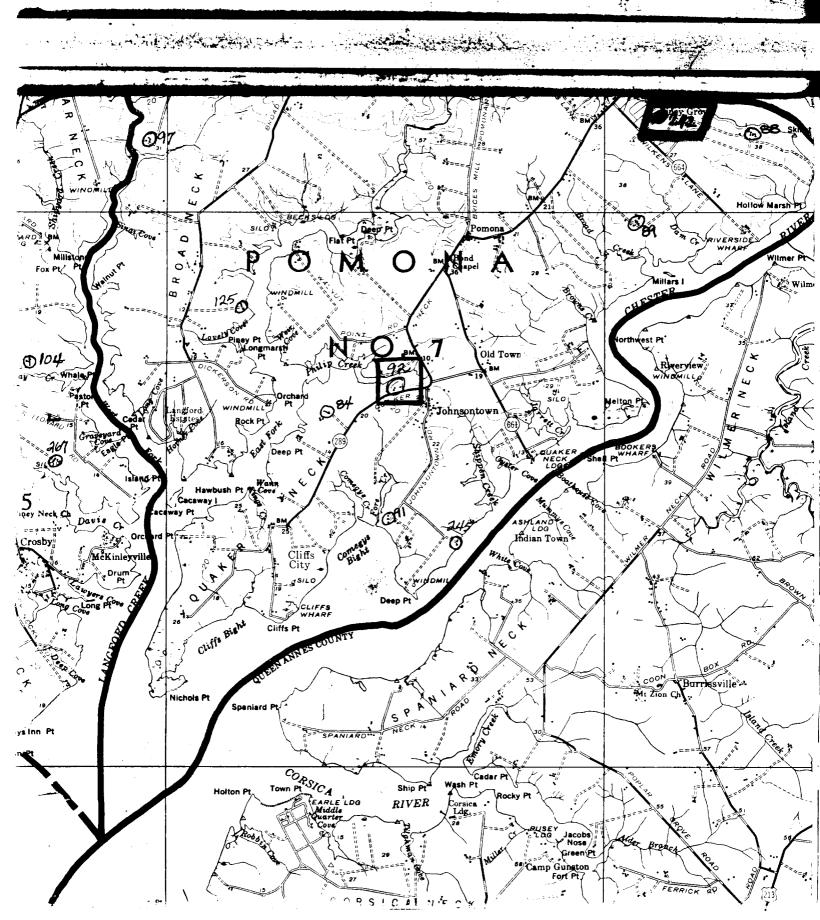
John Weddall

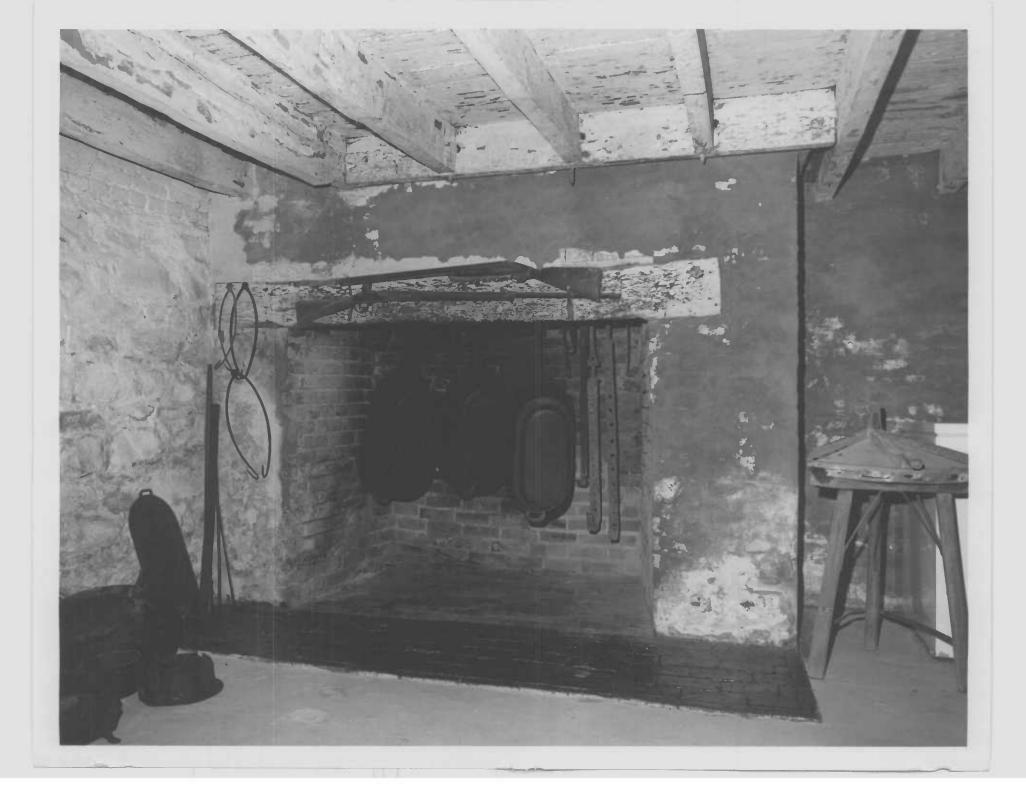
81 lbs 15 shillings

327 A. called "Tilghman's Farms"

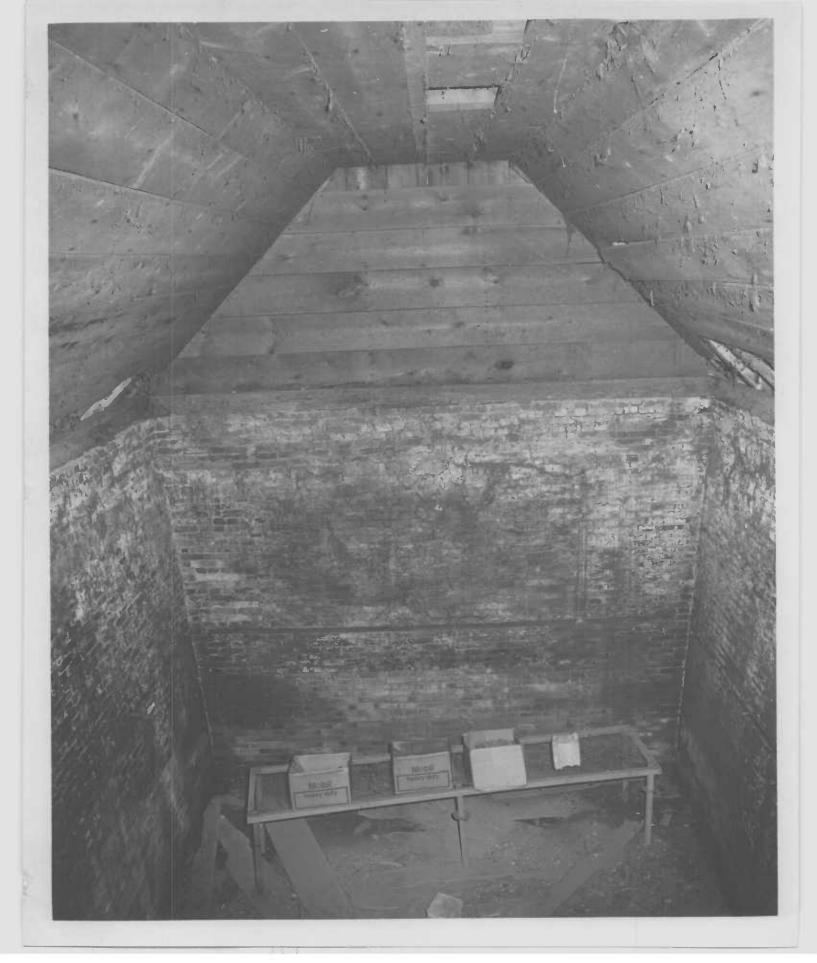
Note: John Wedall and John Woodall - same party.

"Tilghmans Farm", containing 900 acres, patented to Richard Tilghman, January 10, 1670, Recorded in Liber No. 14, folio 139, Annapolis, Md.

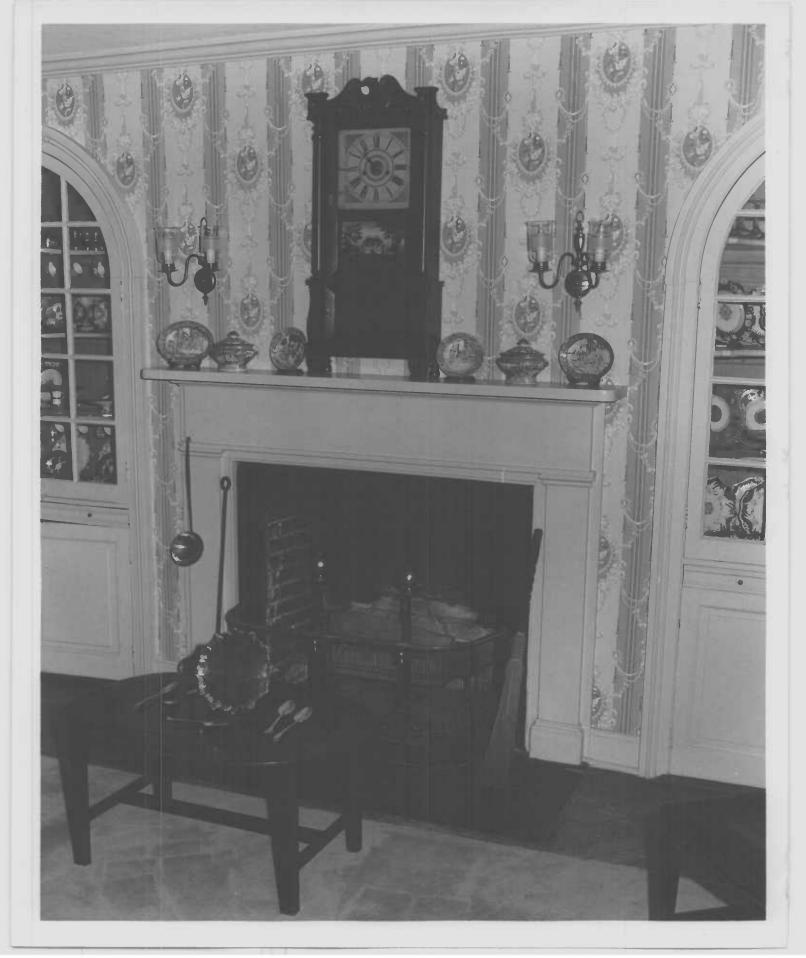




PINEY GROVE K-24Z
KITCHEN FIRERLACE IN BASEMENT
CHESTERTOWN, MD
7/77 CENESTROM



PINEY GROVE MHT 242
WILKENS LANE
CHESTERTOWN, MD.
INTERIOR OF ICE HOUSE
C. ENGSTROM AUG 1977



Veirey Grove MAT K242 Marth side - Just Hood Welken & Lane C. Engthom Aug 1977



Riney From MAT R242 Wilkens Lane West Face. C. En jelsom Aug 1947